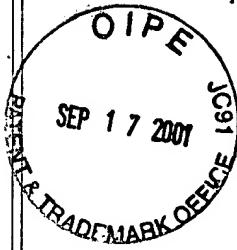


September 13, 2001

Date of Signature



PATENT
B208-346 DIV

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Kenichi Nagasawa, et al.
Serial No. : 09/437,694
For : SIGNAL RECORDING APPARATUS
Filed : November 10, 1999
Examiner : H. Nguyen
Art Unit : 2715

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

In response to the Office Action of April 25, 2001, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 22-30 and add claims 31-37 as follows:

31. A digital information coding apparatus, comprising:
a) an input unit, arranged to selectively inputting a first parallel data of N bits representing a first digital information and second parallel data of N bits representing a second digital information;
b) an encoder, arranged to encode the first parallel data to generate third parallel

John J. Torrene
Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Signature

John J. Torrene

AF
9/21/01